

USDA-ARS Laboratory Hosts High School Biology Class

On June 20th the scientists and staff of the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory helped the teachers of the Bismarck High School Summer Biology classes make science come alive. Drs. Kris Nichols, (Soil Microbiologist), Rebecca Phillips (Plant Physiologist), and Eric Scholljegerdes (Animal Scientist) provided the 40 students and their instructors 'hands on' biology experience at the Mandan, ND research campus. As they showed the students their research, each ARS scientist emphasized the symbiotic interrelationships between humans, animals, plants, soils, and the environment we all live in. After their time with the scientists and lunch provided by the Area 4 SCD Cooperative Research Farm, the students availed themselves of the beautiful 90 year-old, 15 acre campus for tree and native grass identification, and chasing insects for their biology class collections. Scott Bylin, Maria Striped Face – Collins, Clay Erickson, and Cal Thorson helped with the activities.